

# The Hartford News

April 1 – 7, 2021

FREE

## City Seeks Volunteers to Help Sign Up Residents for Vaccine

With the COVID-19 positivity rating on the rise in Connecticut again, the City of Hartford is seeking volunteers to register themselves, their family members and their neighbors to be vaccinated against the deadly virus.

On Tuesday, Governor Ned Lamont said the state had its highest single-day positivity rate in more than two months. The state reported a positivity rating (the percentage of COVID-19 test coming back positive for the disease) of 5.26%, compared to only 2.5% on March 12.

The Hartford's Health Department recently stepped up its efforts to increase the number of city residents who have been vaccinated by calling them directly over the phone and making door-to-door visits to set up appointments.

Now the City is also offering free training for those residents who are willing and able to sign up their fellow residents for the vaccine. All residents need is a phone, tablet, or

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## DINING OUT?

*New food truck ordinances are on the horizon*

BY DONNA SWARR

Summer in Hartford is the time when we can always expect a lot of residents keeping longer and later hours for outdoor fun. But last summer, street parties frequently got out of hand across the city, and food trucks popped up every night in clusters to add to



the revelry. This problem wasn't new, just worse. For the past 3-4 years there were issues with food trucks parked in mixed use areas eroding the quality of life for residents. The gas generators would run 24-7, people would hang out, and in general, residents lost a lot of sleep and the police couldn't – or wouldn't – do anything about it. Additionally,

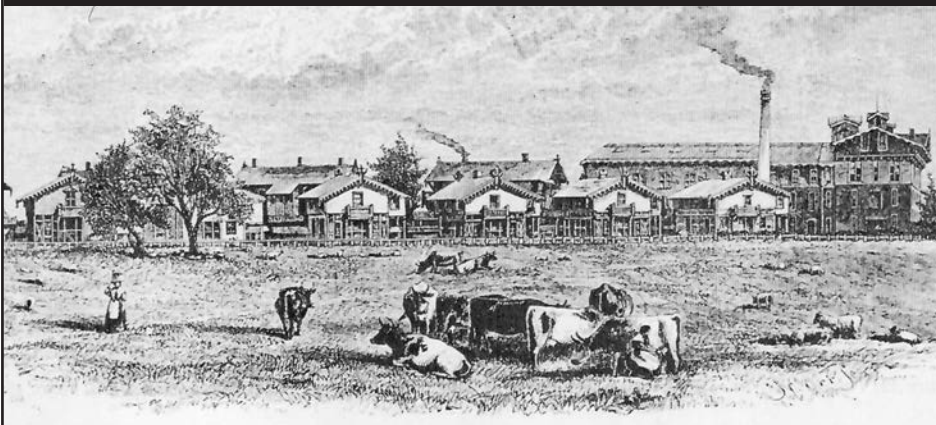
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## Remembering COVID-19 Victims

On Saturday evening, March 27, the 282 Hartford residents who have died from the Covid-19 virus were honored with a special candle-lighting ceremony in Bushnell Park. Hundreds of floating candles were placed in the park's pond by Mayor Luke Bronin and his family (his son is shown above), city officials and others. On Thursday, March 25, the family of Lorraine Whalen, the city's first COVID-19 victim were recognized on the first anniversary of her death (see page 3). (Hart photo)

## Hartford...Once Upon a Time



If you ever happen to drive down Curcombe Street, you'll see a row of houses that look like they belong in the Swiss Alps, not across from Colt Park in Hartford's South Meadows. This is Potsdam Village and the distinct appearance of the houses is not the result of some eccentric architect's whimsy, but part of another of Samuel Colt's business ventures. In 1855, Colt had built a dike along the Connecticut River to protect his factory from flooding. Willow trees were planted along the dike to help hold it together. Someone suggested that Colt should use branches from the trees to make willow furniture, which was very popular at the time. Colt found out that the best willow furniture makers lived in the town of Potsdam in Prussia (now part of Germany), and he recruited them to come and work in Hartford. To ease their way, Colt built twelve Swiss Chalet style cottages on Curcombe Street. He also set aside a large open area for gardening and the raising of livestock. He even built a beer hall for the willow workers. The willow furniture factory (at right in drawing above) opened in 1858 and soon employed over 100 workers. It burned down in 1873. But nine of the original twelve cottages remain and can be seen today – if you ever happen to drive down Curcombe Street. (Drawing taken from the book, "The Nineteenth Century Parks of Hartford," by John Alexopoulos; modern photo by Andy Hart)



## NEWS BRIEFS

### Walk-up Vaccine Clinic at Walmart Today!

The City of Hartford Health and Human Services Department will be hosting a series of no-appointment, walk-up vaccine clinics throughout the city beginning this week, open only to Hartford residents. The first clinic will be at the Walmart at 495 Flatbush Avenue on Thursday, April 1st between 2 PM – 6:30 PM. No insurance is required, but residents are asked to bring some form of identification to demonstrate they live in Hartford. Details of future clinics are being finalized.

### Hands On Hartford Free Easter Community Meal

Hands on Hartford will hold a free Community Easter Meal on Sunday, April 4. The meal will begin at 11:30am. There will be take-out style, with limited indoor seating at Hands On Hartford's Center for Community, 55 Bartholomew Avenue (off Park Street, two blocks west of Pope Park), Hartford. The meal will include: all-beef kielbasa, grilled peppers and onions, roasted dill potatoes, pasta salad, maple ginger glazed carrots and carrot cake. In addition, there will be Easter baskets for kids under 12 who attend and small "care packages" for adults.

### Free Weekend Bus Rides this Summer

On Tuesday, March 30, Governor Ned Lamont today announced that as part of his administration's ongoing efforts to help the state recover from the economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, CTtransit will provide free, statewide bus service to all customers every weekend this summer beginning Memorial Day weekend and lasting through Labor Day. The governor said the free rides will help reduce pollution and encourage people to patronize local businesses. The Connecticut Department of Transportation will use up to \$3 million that the state received from the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act – also known as the CARES Act – for the service, including accommodating for social distancing on the routes. In addition to Saturdays and Sundays, the free

Continued on page 7



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Helping Others Starts Young

On Saturday, March 27, the Friends of Colt Park held a spring clean-up. Among the volunteers who turned out to help clean the park were Nathania Delvalle and her son Elijah Sanchez. Although she lives in East Hartford now, Nathania grew up on Park Street and said she had many happy memories of Colt Park, “watching sports and just enjoying nature. I wanted to come and help out to give something back. And it’s a great learning experience for my son.” (Hart photo)

FOUL BALL

At \$30 per game, Minor League Baseball is no walk in the park for the players

COMMENTARY BY ANNE GOSHDIGIAN

It’s no secret that I’ve been critical of the one-sided deal that brought the city of Hartford and the taxpayers (us) Dunkin Donuts Stadium and the Yard Goats AA Minor League baseball team when the “done deal” was made public in 2015. It wasn’t the presence of the game itself that bothered me. It was the underhanded way the deal was made in secret and then shoved through without any voter approval, based on whisper-thin promises of an economic super-boost for the city and the north end in particular. The original projected cost of \$60 million for construction of the ballpark doubled, leaving Hartford with a hefty \$4-4.5 million payment on the bonds every year for 26 years. To add insult to injury, the ironclad contract gives the team owner with no skin in the game all the revenue from ticket, merchandise, and food & beverage sales, reaping him millions in profits every season. The city, on the other hand, receives half of the naming rights, “rent” from the Yard Goats (none in 2016 when they played the season on the road and none in 2020 when the season was cancelled), and some from city-owned parking venues near the park. All of that adds up to around \$800,000 a year on the plus side of the ledger and millions in the red for the capital city. Yes, we’re crying in our beer, but those players—the gladiators who entertain the masses of game attendees—get...peanuts.

Many of you already know that MILB athletes, who are talented players often scouted and then recruited into the league right out of college and even high school, are chasing the dream: a call-up to the majors where that 10-billion dollar in profits every year industry’s starting pay is in the area of \$500,000 a year. It’s a dream that rarely becomes a reality. The reality is that playing in the minors nets team members each an average of \$4,000 for the season, which spans 7-8 months of the year counting spring and fall training, for which

they receive no pay. There’s also none for hours spent in practice, warmups, training, travelling, and appearing at offsite team promotions. The federal minimum wage is \$7.25 an hour, but MILB players earn less than half of that due to a job description—“apprentices”—that Major League Baseball, which spends millions each year on lobbying the government succeeded in pushing through, putting them a good distance below the federal poverty level. That means that the ballpark’s hot dog vendors, ticket-takers, and ushers earn a lot more than the guys on the field, as they are paid the prevailing minimum wage in the cities where they work. The players are indeed working at a job for the team, but that’s not recognized. There’s more. The players have to rent a place to live near their home team’s base and as a result must share apartments with as many as three or more teammates in order to survive. Other than the ballpark’s training table, they’re on their own for food, and also transportation to and from the stadium. On the road they do receive a paltry daily meal stipend and are provided hotel rooms where they also double and triple up.

I learned all about these slave wages last Sunday while listening to “Reveal”, produced by The Center for Investigative Reporting, a weekly podcast on WNPR. It was an eye-opener, fascinating and shocking in equal measure. Here’s the link to that podcast that includes the full text/transcript of the podcast: <https://reveal-news.org/podcast/minor-league-pay/>. It’s a must-read for Yard Goats fans as well as others who may not be aware of the discrepancies and the deceptions that allow the very rich to take advantage of those who put the money in their pockets—and take it away from ours through that truly lousy deal. We was robbed! And so were—and are--the minor league boys of summer.



# Politically Speaking

A Fresh Look at Issues Facing our Region & State

BY MIKE MCGARRY

The Children of Hartford Blooms

26 years ago, Hartford Proud and Beautiful, a project of the now defunct Downtown Council, instituted Hartford Blooms!, a program to spread large flower pots throughout the city. Businesses and institutions soon caught on and a wave of plantings and improved landscaping soon spread throughout Hartford.

Much of the credit for this trend should go to Knox Parks (now KNOX, Inc.). Knox filled the pots with beautiful

resident-led, along with the continuing efforts of KNOX, Inc. have helped to increase citizen participation in beautifying and “greening” Hartford in every neighborhood.

However, to make an even more significant impact, the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving, (HFPG) recently put out a request for Proposals for Hartford neighborhood beautification. Convinced that enhancing the physical beauty of the city can lead to



John Tornatore, Bonetti Florsit, Mike McGarry, Hartford City Council, and Mike Serrica, Director of Hartford Proud and Beautiful with a flowering pot in 1995, the first year of Hartford Blooms.

flowers, planted trees, held clean-ups and beautification projects, and landscaped government and non-profit properties throughout the city by the year 2000. The goal was 2000 blooming examples of beauty and caring. The initiative was picked up by many neighboring towns, such as the flower barrels on Main Street in East Hartford and fabulous floral displays in West Hartford Center.

About 10 years ago, Hartford Blooms expanded into city tours that included gardens, parks and historic and cultural sites. These tours will continue this June; go to [HartfordBlooms.gdn](http://HartfordBlooms.gdn) for more information. Patrons of the tour have come from right here in Hartford, neighboring towns and as far away as New York, New Jersey and Massachusetts. We even had a few visitors from overseas!

Now, in 2021, Hartford is truly in full bloom with several city projects such as Love Your Block and Adopt Your Block. These modest,

a cascade of other improvements (increased quality of life, higher property values and increased social connectedness), HFPG is offering significant cash incentives for non-profit groups to work with neighbors, businesses and City of Hartford agencies to make improvements to the look and feel of the city.

So, Hartford has come a long way from those first 150 pots in 1995, which were inspired by a trip to Ireland and dedicated to the veterans of World War II on the 50th anniversary of the end of the war.

The children of Hartford Blooms – all these new programs – can lead us out of the funk of the COVID-19 pandemic and give us a chance to truly make Hartford “proud and beautiful.” So, this spring, wear your mask (if needed), keep your distance and plant some flowers, clean up a messy property and make our city beautiful.



KNOX Gets Ready for Spring

KNOX, Inc. gardeners Renaldo Rentas and Guarionex Vargas get ready to pot hundred of seedlings at the organization’s greenhouse at 75 Laurel Street in Hartford. The seedlings will be placed in large flower pots throughout the city. In addition to adding a touch of beauty, many of the pots will be used in traffic calming projects at the new round-about at the intersection of Russ Street, Sigourney Street and Park Terrace and on Wethersfield Avenue. (Hart photo)

## THE HARTFORD NEWS

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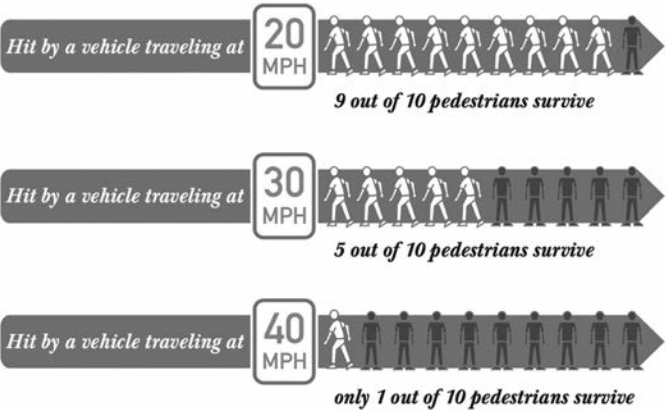
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# Letters to the Editor

## “Complete Streets” Will Mean Safer Streets For Everyone

I became involved with the Complete Streets task force just after the city adopted the Park Guide in 2013. That’s when the Capital City Park & Open Space Master Plan included a section on both existing

that is what the Complete Streets plan does; it’s a street safety plan. To learn more about the City of Hartford’s Complete Streets plan please consider watching an out-reach session on Thursday, April 22



and potential connections to our parks. Specifically, the goal was to find opportunities for bike lanes and trails to create links between and within Hartford’s parks, which would allow our residents to make full use of their amenities. Keney Park’s old carriage trails are a perfect way to re-connect the park to Vine Street and Love Lane and connect it to Riverfront Recapture. The Complete Streets plan is vital to making these connections possible. The Friends of Colt Park are eager for similar connections that will encourage visitors to explore Coltsville National Historic Park via a safe passage to Colt Park from the river via Riverfront or Charter Oak Landing.

I live 400 feet off of Wethersfield Avenue. There have been several fatalities in the past four years, including a pedestrian, a cyclist, and a motor scooter rider, all of them caused by reckless motorists. Each one of them still makes me sick to think about today. The number of traffic accidents is astounding. Traffic calming measures are being constructed to hopefully slow people down, prevent people from using the center lane as a passing lane, and provide the bike lane with an effective barrier. The Friends of Colt Park have applied for a grant to place planters in the center lane, not in areas where people are expected to turn, but when they are not to use the lane for passing. One of the fatalities near Colt Park was a result of two cars racing north at high speed in one lane when the second car swerved across the center lane and accelerated to take the lead, killing the cyclist in the bike lane. The motor scooter rider, who had the green light, was coming out of Morris Street and turned left onto Wethersfield Avenue only to be struck and killed by a car that had raced through the red light at high speed. This effort is being undertaken as a result of the Complete Streets planning activities. There isn’t an NRZ in Hartford that has not been negatively impacted by poor driver decisions. We can’t expect the police to be sitting on every street corner to give out tickets. We need to design the streets to provide guidance to drivers so that they make the right decision, and

at 6 p.m. via WebEx: <https://tinyurl.com/ddsCS042221>. The plan can be found at this link: <https://tinyurl.com/ddsCSPlan>.

Donna Swarr, Hartford



## City’s First COVID-19 Victim Honored

On Thursday, March 25, a ceremony was held on Burr Mall outside Hartford City Hall to remember the city’s first victim of the COVID-19 pandemic, Lorraine Whalen, on the first anniversary of her death. Whalen, a longtime Hartford resident and parishioner at Saint Anne’s Church, died at age 93. Her family were the main speakers at the event, along with Mayor Luke Bronin and religious leaders representing several faiths. Four of Whalen’s nine children are shown above, Donald Whalen, Loretta Carter, Louis Whalen and Lorraine Roman. Louis, who had cared for his mother for over 35 years was too overcome with emotion to speak at the ceremony. His sister Loretta said, “If you want to honor my mother, if you want honor those who have died in this pandemic, please, get vaccinated.” Since Whalen’s death, 281 more Hartford residents have died from the COVID-19 virus. (Hart photo)

## How & Where to Get Your COVID-19 Vaccine

### Who is eligible now?

As of today, April 1, all Connecticut residents over the age of 16 are eligible for the COVID-19 vaccine. The vaccine is free. No insurance is required. However, you must make an appointment.

### Make an Appointment

#### By Phone:

- Multilingual State Line: 877-918-2224, M-F 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM.
- Multilingual Hartford Healthcare Line: 860-827-7690, M-F 8 am-5 pm
- Multilingual City Health Dept: 860-757-4830, M-F 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM. City is expanding staffing to answer calls.

#### Online:

- [ct.gov/covicvaccine](https://ct.gov/covicvaccine): State of CT: Put your zip code in top corner
- [HartfordHealthCare.org/vaccine](https://HartfordHealthCare.org/vaccine): Hartford Healthcare (Hartford Hosp.)
- [TrinityHealthOfNE.org/appointment](https://TrinityHealthOfNE.org/appointment): Trinity Healthcare (St. Francis Hosp.)
- City of Hartford: <https://www.hartfordct.gov>. There is a link at the top of the City of Hartford website to the City Vaccine Interest Online Form.

### Where to go for your vaccine

- **Every Saturday: Dunkin Donuts Stadium, 10 am - 3 pm. Appointment required! Call (860) 757-4830 or go to City of Hartford website and click on**

### Vaccine Registration Form.

- **Every Tuesday, 9am - 4 pm: parking lot across from Dunkin Donuts Stadium, 1215 Main Street, (vaccine site managed by Charter Oak Health Center). Call 860-550-7500 and then dial 0 to make an appointment (required).**
- Charter Oak Health Center, 21 Grand St., 860-550-7500
- Community Health Center, 76 New Britain Ave., (860) 547-0970
- Community Health Services, 500 Albany Ave., (860) 249-9625
- Connecticut Children's Medical Center, 282 Washington St., (860) 545-9000
- Hartford Healthcare Clinic (CT Convention Center), 100 Columbus Blvd., 860-827-7690
- Hartford Hospital, 85 Seymour St., 860-827-7690
- Parker Memorial Community Center, 2621 Main St., Monday-Friday, 8:20am - 3:40 pm. Call/text 860-890-3161 or email: [AdvocacyToLegacy@gmail.com](mailto:AdvocacyToLegacy@gmail.com)
- Saint Francis Hospital, 260 Ashley St., 1st Floor
- South End Senior Center, 830 Maple Ave., 877-918-2224
- Walgreens Pharmacy, 1291 Albany Ave.
- Charter Oak Health Center, 21 Grand St., 860-550-7500
- Walgreens Pharmacy, 161 Washington St., (860) 522-5005
- Wheeler Family Health & Wellness Center, 43 Woodland St., 860-793-3500

### Free Transportation to Coronavirus Testing & Vaccine Sites Available to Hartford Residents

The City of Hartford will provide transportation to Coronavirus testing appointments to residents who meet the following criteria:

- No other means of transportation is available

- A Confirmed Test Order and A Testing Appointment
- A Confirmed Vaccine Appointment
- Appointment at facility in Hartford

For assistance, call 311 or (860) 757-9311. Staff available Monday to Friday, 8:00am - 5:00pm. For urgent appointments or change to existing transportation appointments after hours and on Saturdays, residents can call (860) 757-9525.

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News & Views



HARTFORD  
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ASYLUM HILL NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

From the  
Executive Director  
BY DAVID MACDONALD

## AHNA Begins Neighborhood Strategic Planning

Asylum Hill Neighborhood Association has begun a process that will update our NRZ Strategic Plan to guide the revitalization of Asylum Hill for the next ten (10) years. To guide this process and insure it's an inclusive and holistic Planning Process, the AHNA BOD has created a Steering Committee to engage our institutional partners in Neighborhood Strategic Planning. AHNA as the Neighborhood Revitalization Group for Asylum Hill has the statutory authority to set development and all other priorities for the neighborhood. Ted Carroll is the volunteer chairman of the Steering Committee.

The Steering Committee purpose is:

- To support and guide the development of the Asylum Hill neighborhood's strategic plan so that a diverse array of residents and stakeholders can work collaboratively to:
- Determine where we want to go as a neighborhood
- Identify key goals and priority projects for 2021 – 2031
- Participate in and support more deeply the work of AHNA
- Map organizational changes and new partnerships to oversee/implement the plan.

To begin this work, the Steering Committee met in March and will likely meet 2 – 3 additional times over the next 6- 7 months. The next meeting of the Steering Committee will be in June. In April and May, the 8 Issue Task Forces (TF) will meet to review data and research potential solutions to the neighborhood's revitalization challenges. The SC intends to present the Strategic Plan to the AHNA BOD in the September-October timeframe with adoption by November by AHNA members, when the SC and TFs would conclude. Members of the Steering Committee include: Chairman Ted Carroll (AHNA

member, resident), Lynn Johnson, (AHNA Director, resident), Esther Gonzales-Torres, (AHNA Director, resident), Jackie McKinney, (AHNA Chairwoman, resident), Janine McMahon, (AHNA Director, resident), Paul O'Mara, (AHNA Director, resident), Louisa Barton-Duguay, (AHNA Treasurer, resident), Vijayalakshmi Sivasankar, (AHNA member, resident), Michael Barr (AHNA Director, resident), Wayne Benjamin, (AHNA Director, local business rep.), Yvonne Mathews, (AHNA Director, Urban League rep.), Michelle McFarland, (AHNA Director, HPL rep.), Ken Johnson, (AHNA Director, NINA rep.), Sarah Morin, (the Hartford rep.), Autumn Florek, (City of Hartford Planning Dept. rep.)

The Task Forces are as follows and are open for any interested person to join:

**1) Economic Development – Chaired by Wayne Benjamin, first meeting tentative for Tuesday April 20th at 5:30pm.** Initial ideas to explore include Transit-oriented development (TOD) at Union Station and at CT Fast Track Hawthorne site; Continue traffic calming efforts; Work with FAA to complete Farmington Ave. streetscape project, including storefront signage, and street lighting; Key development opportunities: Comet Diner restoration, 85 Sigourney (former Hastings Hotel/Aetna training center) Hawthorn Street North (to work with Housing TF and NINA)

**2) Employment – Chaired by Yvonne Matthews:** Initial ideas to explore include connecting employer needs with resident skills (to work with Econ. Dev. TF, NINA and Chamber); connect residents with job-training/adult education programs; and connecting employer needs with resident skills (work with local institutional employers, NINA and Hartford Chamber of Commerce).

**3) Public Safety – chaired by Janine McMahon:** Initial ideas to explore include increase police visibility i.e. reinstate CSO, reactivate police sub-station, etc.); Deploy more cameras and other crime-fighting technology; Build stronger police-community relations through establishment of block watches, community events, etc.

**4) Environment – chaired by Lynn Johnson, first meeting scheduled April 14th at 7pm:** Initial ideas to explore include increase tree canopy using native species; restoration of the Park River North Watershed; and Work with City to ensure use of environmentally friendly materials/processes in new construction and renovation projects.

**5) Youth Enrichment & Education – Chaired by Michelle McFarland:** Initial ideas to explore include working with local employers, churches, and colleges to Identify and help recruit volunteers for well-established mentoring and tutoring programs; and develop strategies to connect AH residents to library services.

**6) Housing, Historic Preservation and Blight Remediation – chaired by Ken Johnson:** Initial ideas to explore include increasing supply of market-rate and affordable housing; prevent creation of any additional restricted-deed housing; and assist landlords committed to taking care of their rental properties.

**7) Arts & Culture – Chaired by Jackie McKinney:** Initial ideas to explore include promoting AH as an Arts & Cultural Hub with an emphasis on the Farmington Ave. corridor (Art Space, the Stowe Center, Twain House, and HartBeat Ensemble); establish outreach efforts to connect residents to art and music opportunities; reclaim Sigourney Park as a venue for performances and cultural celebrations.

**8) Human Services - Chaired by Esther Gonzalez-Torres:** Initial ideas to explore include strengthening collaborations among non-profit service providers; Ensure residents are well informed of available services; and support new programs aimed at addressing food insecurity, substance abuse, and health care for residents.

If you are interested in signing up for any of the Task Forces, please visit: [www.asylumhill.org](http://www.asylumhill.org) or email me at [exdir@asylumhill.org](mailto:exdir@asylumhill.org).

## VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH Louisa Barton-Duguay

Ordinarily we try not to repeat featured Volunteers of the Month, but this month will be an exception. In the past we talked about Louisa's efforts with Grace Lutheran Church's Friday Night "Gathering" dinner, which has temporarily become a weekly hot food and grocery distribution. She also has been an important part of Fresh Start Pallet Products from the very beginning, and continues in that effort.



What is to be revealed here are the additional projects that she's taken up recently.

She was the driving force behind the mural that appeared at Farmington and Marshall St last September and that morphed into the painted facelift that the block long shopping center got.

The last part of that event will be the promised celebration that is scheduled for Sunday April 18th and is featured elsewhere in this edition. It has been organized by Louisa, and the funding for it comes from a grant submitted by Louisa.

Regarding funds, when it became clear that AHNA's then treasurer for the past few years, was unable to attend to AHNA's needs, Louisa mentioned that she had worked as a bookkeeper for 15 years back in Canada, and she'd be willing to help out there in addition to her work on the Green Committee. So Louisa is now the AHNA Board Treasurer and AHNA is now getting updated reports on their financial status. A crisis has been averted.

Looking toward the future, Louisa would like to see the City owned property at 5 Farmington Avenue put to better use while it's future is being decided. You may remember this as the proposed site for the Pathways to Technology Magnet School back in 2008 and part of the proposed changes to I-84 more recently. She is envisioning a Community Garden of sorts but with some hydroponic structures as well as vegetable trellises She's also looking to put her recent success with grant writing into this project as well. We'll keep you posted.

## AH Then & Now: 991 Asylum



The photo above is from the Connecticut Historical Society Collection. The inscription on the back says it was the home of George Stone and was taken in 1925. The home also appears on the Sanborn maps of 1900 and 1920. The Geer Directory shows 991 as the address of George until 1935 and Mary Stone until 1938. In the 1939 edition, 991 Asylum is listed as vacant. About 20 years later, the office building known as 999 Asylum, shown at right, was built. In those 20 years, America and Hartford experienced World War II and its aftermath. These photos seem to illustrate as well as anything what was lost and what was gained.



EXPLORING ASYLUM HILL

Spring Begins to Bloom!

There’s a lot of good news coming soon to Asylum Hill. The first will happen on April 4th, Easter Sunday. That’s when Asylum Hill Congregational Church will hold their first in person service beginning at 10:00 am. It won’t quite be the same as past years, but it will be the first time the Choir will be singing together in more than a year. The differences include the

Then on April 8th, the Stowe House will begin opening to tours and tickets are on sale now. Even better news is that Hartford residents are admitted at no charge. The following Saturday, April 10th, the Mark Twain House and Museum will open to tours as well. Asylum Hill residents are also offered special consideration to purchase a household membership at

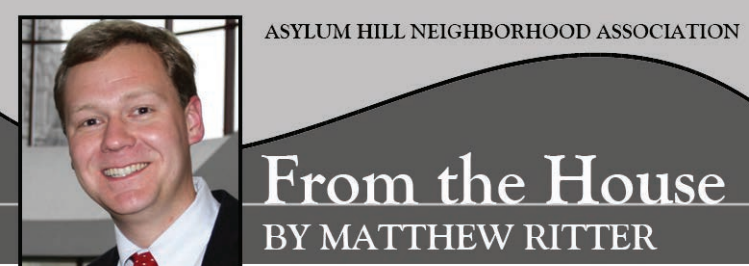
tunity to contribute if you can) and all of them are conversations with authors about their recent books. The subjects are as varied as Alexander Graham Bell and Prince. To see the whole list, go to <https://marktwainhouse.org/event/> As for The Harriet Beecher Stowe Center, events begin on May 8th with an “afternoon making revolu-



venue, which will be the parking lot instead of the sanctuary and while you won’t hear the organ, the choir will be accompanied by brass and other instruments. They will all maintain social distancing and masks when possible, and it looks like their prayers for good weather are being answered. They’ll follow it up with a special Easter community lunch of honey-baked ham, green beans and mashed potatoes.

half price, which includes both a free Living History Tour and regular House Tours. There are other benefits as well that Jacquelyn Andrews (860-280-3112), Development Associate, can explain to you. But this is only part of what these two fine institutions are up to. The Mark Twain House has a total of eleven events in April, and another eight in May. All of these will be virtual, all will be free (with an oppor-

tionary mortar and replanting the solitary garden.” This event is free, outdoors and will allow participants the opportunity to help plant this year’s garden in the art installation as well as to create the mortar described above. There’ll be three events in June, including a celebration of Harriet’s birthday and another in July culminating with Stowe Prize 2021 in September. Lots to look forward to. For more recent photos of the grounds go to: <http://bit.ly/StoweTwainSpring>



State Ends Use of Welfare Liens

It was a top priority and it went early in the legislative session – ending the state’s shortsighted and hurtful policy of using liens to force people to repay public assistance support they received in the past. Known as welfare liens, I call the policy a secret “poverty tax” that has been destroying lives and families for decades and it had to stop. This legislation is also a great example of our community coming together to raise awareness about an issue that frankly many legislators either didn’t understand its full impact or even know existed at all. Thanks to the hard work of people like Reverend AJ Johnson of the Greater Hartford Interfaith Action Alliance, Sarah White of the Connecticut Fair Housing Center and Cori Mackey of the Center for Leadership and Justice, the entire legislature was put on notice and the result was an overwhelming vote to repeal the use of welfare liens. Essentially the new law requires the state to release all current state liens on real property related to public assistance and prevents the state from placing new liens on real property. These liens had been the most common type of method of assistance recovery and it effectively prevents new homeowners from building equity and wealth for themselves and their families. This archaic policy has been counterproductive to the goal of many state programs, which are designed to help lift people up. By treating public assistance like debt, we only perpetuate the cycle of poverty. We should be working harder to find more ways to encourage people to improve their lives, not discourage or penalize them for it. Government’s challenges to the problems facing society are ongoing, and ending the use of punitive welfare liens is an important example of how our state can evolve for the better. Please contact me if I can ever be of any assistance. I can be reached at [Matthew.Ritter@cga.ct.gov](mailto:Matthew.Ritter@cga.ct.gov), on Facebook @RepresentativeMattRitter or by phone at (860) 240-8489, if you have any questions or concerns.



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**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
**ESTATE OF**  
**Marion Murphy**  
**(21-00212)**

The Hon. Foye A. Smith, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Hartford Probate Court, by decree dated March 22, 2021, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Carmen Y. Zayas  
Clerk

The fiduciary is:  
Heather Caddigan, conservator of Joyce Dowds  
c/o Robert Anthony Scalise,  
Ericson Scalise & Mangan  
35 Pearl St, Ste 301  
New Britain, CT 06051

**LIQUOR PERMIT**  
**Notice of Application**

This is to give notice that I,  
**CHRISTOPHER LEONARD**  
**55 SPENCER STREET**  
**WINSTED, CT 06098-1115**

Have filed an application placarded 03/21/2021 with the Department of Consumer Protection for a RESTAURANT LIQUOR PERMIT for the sale of alcoholic liquor on the premises at  
**942 MAIN STREET**  
**HARTFORD, CT 06103-1214**

The business will be owned by:  
**CITY STEAM BREWERY, LLC**

Entertainment will consist of:  
Acoustics (not amplified), Disc Jockeys, Comedians

Objections must be filed by:  
**05-02-2021**

**CITY STEAM BREWERY LLC**

**OFFICE SUPPORT CLERK**

Imagineers, LLC is a housing service company located in Hartford CT

We are seeking applicants for our Office Support Clerk position. This position will provide general office support including handling heavy telephone and office traffic in connection with our Housing Choice Voucher Program. Additional tasks include front desk activities, typing, filing paperwork and maintaining the file room, as well as delivering and retrieving files from the City of Hartford and other housing agencies. Hartford residents and minorities are encouraged to apply. For more details on this opportunity and to apply please visit <https://imagineersllc.applicantpool.com/jobs/> or submit resume to [dzimber@imagineersllc.com](mailto:dzimber@imagineersllc.com)

We offer attractive wages and benefits package including: Medical/Dental, Disability/Life, 401(k) with a Match, 2+ weeks Paid Time Off, Paid Holidays and Mileage Reimbursement

Candidates must have the following qualifications:

- High school diploma or equivalent
- Strong communication and organizational skills
- Some experience in public housing or Section 8 is a plus
- Bilingual in English / Spanish is a plus
- Valid driver's license with a clean driving record and a fully insured motor vehicle

**HOUSING INSPECTOR**

Imagineers, LLC is a housing service company located in Hartford CT

We are seeking qualified applicants for our Housing Inspector position. This position routinely inspects housing units for program compliance. This position involves preparing written reports; documenting evidence and daily contact with the public; interpreting and explaining regulations; exercising sound professional judgement and problem-solving skills while maintaining effective relationships with residents and property owners and driving between properties. Additionally, the candidate will be required to successfully pass the Housing Inspector training certification requirements within 12 months of hire. For more details on this opportunity and to apply please visit <https://imagineersllc.applicantpool.com/jobs/> or submit resume to [dzimber@imagineersllc.com](mailto:dzimber@imagineersllc.com)

We offer attractive wages and benefits package including: Medical/Dental, Disability/Life, 401(k) with a Match, 2+ weeks Paid Time Off, Paid Holidays and Mileage Reimbursement

Hartford residents and minority candidates are encouraged to apply.

Candidates must have the following qualifications:

- High school diploma and two years of college experience
- Strong communication and organizational skills
- Experience in public housing, Section 8, counseling and case management.
- Knowledge and experience in enforcing codes and ordinances related to housing inspections
- Knowledge of building construction and maintenance
- Ability to effectively communicate solutions of housing maintenance problems to property owner
- Bilingual in English / Spanish strongly preferred
- Valid driver's license with a clean driving record and a fully insured motor vehicle

**Hartford Athletic Announce 2021 Schedule**

Hartford Athletic has announced the 2021 Regular Season schedule which includes 16 home matches at Dillon Stadium. Hartford Athletic opens the season on the road against New York Red Bulls II on April 30th. The season's first home game will be on May 15th against Pittsburgh Riverhounds SC.

Athletic will play in the USL Championship’s Atlantic Division this season. 2020 Group F rivals New York Red Bulls II, Pittsburgh Riverhounds SC, and Loudoun United FC will play in the Atlantic along with defending Eastern Conference Champion Tampa Bay Rowdies, Miami FC, Charleston Battery, and Charlotte Independence. Hartford will play each of these teams four times, twice at home and twice away.

All home and away matches that do not appear on ESPN linear networks will be aired locally in conjunction with Hartford Athletic's broadcast partner WTNH and streamed on WTNH.com.

Hartford Athletic is working closely with city and state officials on final protocols that will allow fans to safely attend matches this season. Season Ticket Members and Flex Plan Holders will have first priority for this potential limited opportunity.

Fans interested in purchasing single game tickets can join Hartford Athletic’s priority wait list to reserve their place in line. For fans interested in purchasing 2021 ticket packages or joining the single game ticket wait list, please visit [www.hartfordathletic.com/tickets](http://www.hartfordathletic.com/tickets).

For inquiries on tickets, please contact Hartford Athletic at 860-216-0816 or email [tickets@hartfordathletic.com](mailto:tickets@hartfordathletic.com).

**Vaccination Volunteers Needed**

**Continued from page 1**

computer with internet, and the City will conduct short trainings in English and Spanish on how to use the Calendly app to make vaccine appointments.

The City will provide access to vaccine appointments for clinics operated by the Department of Health and Human Services as well as other providers in the city. Residents who get trained must commit to registering only Hartford residents for appointments.

Residents can register for the training at this link, which is also on the homepage of HartfordCT.gov. The City will initially take a limited number of volunteers and expand depending on the availability of vaccine appointments.

For more information on the volunteer program, please go to: <https://us.openforms.com/Form/c4e739ef-fd02-419d-8eb1-465110644dc6>

“Our team is calling residents and going door-to-door, but there’s nothing more effective than mobilizing

our community as a whole to sign up their friends and family for the vaccine,” said Mayor Luke Bronin. “Working with our partners, we have dedicated appointments available for Hartford residents only, and we want our community’s help to make sure they get filled. We know that the appointment system is a barrier for some members of our community, so we’re encouraging folks who are comfortable using the internet to sign themselves up – and then sign up friends, family, or anyone they know who lives in Hartford.”

**Food Trucks**

**Continued from page 1**

the food trucks negatively impacted local restaurant business.

At the March 22nd City Council meeting, the mayor submitted an ordinance revision for Chapter 27: “Peddlers, Itinerant Vendors, and Street Vendors”. It stated that “While we welcome mobile vendors, it is important to provide clarity around licensing requirements and lawful operations in order to mitigate any negative impact--particularly on our residential neighborhoods.” The revision includes a single application that both Health and Human Services and Development Services will use, which is expected to make that process easier for food truck vendors. Aimee Chambers, Director of Planning, was quoted in the Hartford Courant on March 24th as saying “The city is in the early stages of trying to develop one or two food truck parks in the city, like those taking off in West Hartford and other towns.” In addition, the temporary order issued last June for the prohibition of food trucks operating past 9 p.m. would be made permanent.

A map of where the food trucks will be allowed to operate is included in the ordinance revision. In the past, there was no map. This proposed map can be found on the Hartford News Facebook page, Hartford News-Southside Media. Most notably, there will no longer be food trucks on Wethersfield Avenue. Many of the downtown locations are already familiar spots. But there are many locations that residents should consider weighing in on as to what appears to be new locations around the city. I live in the south end of the city, and I noticed that Airport Road was indicated as one of the locations. It’s a very busy street day and night. One stretch of it is part of the I-91 entrance ramps, and used by many emergency vehicles responding to highway accidents. Locust Street may be perceived as not being residential, but it is a frequent location for street racing. I wouldn’t want to add fuel that activity, although there are several other locations indicated on the map in the south end that look to be good choices. The revision was referred to the Health & Human Services Committee, and there will be a public hearing on Monday April 19th. You can ask to speak at the public hearing or you can write to the City Council and express your views and concerns on this matter.

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
**ESTATE OF**  
**Robert M. Pitts**  
**(21-00210)**

The Hon. Foye A. Smith, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Hartford Probate Court, by decree dated March 22, 2021, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Carmen Y. Zayas  
Clerk

The fiduciary is:  
Andrew Stephen Knott,  
Knott & Knott, LLC,  
125 Main Street,  
Cheshire, CT 06410

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
**ESTATE OF**  
**William H Beckham**  
**(21-00284)**

The Hon. Foye A. Smith, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Hartford Probate Court, by decree dated March 26, 2021, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Judith A. Miller,  
Assistant Clerk

The fiduciary is:  
Frederick H Beckham  
4 Lake Louise Drive,  
WestBrook, CT 06498

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
**ESTATE OF**  
**Thelma E Valentine**  
**(21-00301)**

The Hon. Foye A. Smith, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Hartford Probate Court, by decree dated March 25, 2021, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Judith A. Miller,  
Assistant Clerk

The fiduciary is:  
Gail Valentine-Waterman  
280 Capen Street  
Hartford, CT 06112

News Briefs

Continued from page 1

service will also include the Memorial Day holiday on Monday, May 31, 2021; the observed Independence Day holiday on Monday, July 5, 2021; and the Labor Day holiday on Monday, September 6, 2021. To learn more about routes and destinations offered by CTtransit, visit [www.cttransit.com](http://www.cttransit.com).

Free First Saturday at Historical Society April 3

The Connecticut Historical Society Museum and Library, One Elizabeth Street, Hartford, will offer free admission on Saturday, April 3, from 9 am - 5 pm. In addition to free admission, we will have a new family Grab and Go Bag available for one day only! Explore our Inns and Taverns Signs of Connecticut exhibit to discover the stories of these New England businesses from long ago, and learn the meaning behind the symbols on these historic signs. Then, kids can paint their own wooden sign to advertise the shop of their dreams – ALL necessary materials included!

MARG Meets April 8

The Maple Avenue Revitalization

Group (MARG) will hold its monthly meeting on Thursday, April 8, at 6 pm in the lower level of Saint Augustine Church, 10 Campfield Avenue, Hartford. Guest speakers will be I. Charles Matthews, City of Hartford Director of Development and Aimee Chambers, City of Hartford Director of Planning. Public safety in the neighborhood will also be discussed. Those attending the meeting must wear masks and practice social distancing. For more information, call Hyacinth Yennie at 860-296-5543.

Clean-up of Goodwin Park Set for April 10

The Friends of Goodwin Park will hold a clean-up on Saturday, April 10 starting at 10 am. Volunteers are asked to meet at the pondhouse near the Hubbard Road entrance. Garbage bags and trash pickers will be provided.

Parks Re-opening April 1

The City of Hartford Department of Public Works (DPW) has announced that given the current state guidance on the COVID-19 pandemic, all recreational fields and courts in City of Hartford parks will be reopened for play effective Thursday, April 1. You must use the MyRec reservation system to schedule organized league games

and practices. However, all leagues, teams, and individuals must adhere to the State of Connecticut Department of Public Health's "Updated Guidance for the Operation of Interscholastic, Youth and other Amateur Sport Activities during the COVID-19 Pandemic."

Access Health CT Special Enrollment Period Ends April 15

Due to high demand, Access Health CT (AHCT) has extended the deadline for its Special Enrollment from March 15 to April 15. The Special Enrollment Period is for consumers who are not currently enrolled in coverage through AHCT. Those who enroll before March 16 will begin receiving coverage April 1, 2021; those who enroll before April 15 will begin receiving coverage May 1, 2021. To enroll, you must pay your first month's premium (monthly payment). Financial help will continue to be available to consumers who qualify. To find out more, go to [AccessHealthCT.com](http://AccessHealthCT.com) or call 1-855-805-4325, Mon. – Fri. 8 AM - 4 PM.

Sip 'N' Paint Party April 16 At Keney

It doesn't matter if it's your 1st time holding a brush, or you're a Picasso. Have fun as you sip on wine or beer, have a snack while

you are led through creating your own work of art. The City of Hartford Recreation Division will be hosting an in-person "Sip 'N' Paint Party on Friday, April 16, from 6 - 9 pm. Keney Park Pond House, 383 Edgewood Street, Hartford. The cost is \$25.00 and includes: snacks, beer, wine and all art supplies. You must register for this event at [hartfordct.myrec.com](http://hartfordct.myrec.com) by April 4. You must be 21 years of age or older.

Law Enforcement Career Fair April 15

The Hartford Police Department will be hosting a career fair for those seeking to work in law enforcement on Thursday, April 15, from 9 am -3 pm at Dunkin Donuts Stadium, 1214 Main Street, Downtown Hartford. Salary for an HPD officer is \$52,866-\$71,480 annually. Benefits include a pension and retirement plan; educational incentives, health and dental plan and paid vacations. Must be at least 21 years old; a U.S. citizen; and have a valid driver's license and high school diploma or GED.

Library Seeks Art for Exhibit on Revolutionary Latinas in Hartford

Hartford Public Library has

extended the deadline for artwork submissions to its planned exhibit on Revolutionary Latinas in Hartford to June 1, 2021. Artwork can be submitted by going to: <https://tinyurl.com/y3oluz7t>. It is open to all Hartford residents (past or present) of any age. Family or collaborative submissions accepted. Submit a digital image of artwork you've created to celebrate someone in Hartford that you believe represents the qualities of a revolutionary Latina & tell us why. Art will be part of an online exhibit launched on March 30 and part of the new Park Library opening.

Job Training Program Accepting Applications Now

CRT is accepting applications for its YouthBuild job training program. We are seeking young adults 18 – 24 from Hartford and East Hartford who want to earn while you learn! Weekly stipend paid! No HS diploma needed – we'll help you get your GED! Opportunities available in Construction, CNA or Medical Assistant, and Security Guards. Training will be held at the CRT Youth Artisan and Technology Center, 1443-1445 Main Street, Hartford. For more information, call 860-560-5308, ext. 227.

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Sunderland Electric is looking for Electricians. Be able to install power supply wiring and conduit, read blueprints, running MC cable, installing transformers, switchgear and panels. Please email resume to [ap@sunderlandelectric.com](mailto:ap@sunderlandelectric.com).

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Steady work, good benefits. Call for interview. 860-828-3762.

**Super/ Handyman wanted for North End Buildings**  
Experienced and reliable super/handyman wanted to oversee multiple 6 family apartment buildings on the North End. Must be experienced with tenant apartment repairs, able to deal with tenants, must have own transportation and reliable phone contact. Immediate. References required. Call (860) 882 3650. Leave message for owner.

**Part-Time Workers**  
Handyman and part-time workers wanted. Call 860-803-7260.

**Help Wanted: Insurance**

Dynamic Allstate Insurance agency is looking for full-time P&C licensed agents and customer-service personnel and a part-time telemarketer. Please email your resume to [aaguh@allstate.com](mailto:aaguh@allstate.com) or mail or drop it off at the office, 737 Wethersfield Avenue, Hartford, VT 06114 or call 860-247-0829.

**Employment**  
Sewers wanted. Hand or machine, experience needed. Call 860-803-7260.

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**Room For Rent**

Rooms for rent in Hartford's West End. Utilities included. \$150 weekly. Security deposit. Call 860-888-6655.

**22 Evergreen Avenue, Hartford**

This is a spacious 2-bedroom unit with hardwood floors. This rents for \$975-\$850 and includes heat and hot water. Close proximity to shopping centers, restaurants and on bus line. On-site laundry and street parking. Section 8 welcomed. No pets. Contract Christine at 860-985-8258.

**Church Space for Rent**

Existing church building, highly visible and on the bus line. The space provides a sanctuary, pastor's office, administrative office, plenty of classroom/ministry space, multiple bathrooms and off-street parking. This is an excellent space for a growing congregation. For more details call: Bill, 860-608-6998.

**Room for Rent**

Furnished room with utilities and kitchen privileges. \$130 weekly. 860 560-8200.

**Rooms for Rent East Hartford**

Nice, clean rooms for rent, 311 Tolland Street, East Hartford. \$160/week, includes all utilities. Call Robert, 860-308-5455.

**Rooms for Rent in Vintage Historic Building in Downtown Hartford**

Small sleeping rooms. Large windows. Clean, quiet and safe. Located on Asylum Street in Downtown Hartford. On busline. References required. \$150-\$165 weekly. Call 860-985-7999. Text or leave message if no answer.

**Apartments for Rent**

Large studio & 1-BR. All include heat and hot water, parking, stove & fridge, washer & dryer in basement. Section 8 welcome. No pets, plenty of closet space. Call Imer at 917-681-5785 or Pablo at 860-983-9444.

**For Rent**

Spacious 3 Bedroom apartments on the 2nd floor, West End. Cold Flat. 1 month security and 1 month rent. Section 8 welcome. Call 860-888-6655.

**Apartments for Rent**

Efficiency, 1, 2, 3 and 4 bedrooms available. Walking distance to shopping, on bus line, off-street parking. Small pets welcome. Section 8 Welcome. Rates Starting at: Studio- \$615; 1BR- \$700; 2BR- \$800; 3BR- \$900; 4BR-\$1000. Call 860-549-3000.

**Apartamentos Para Alquiler:**

Apartamentos modernos localizados en Hartford. Studios, Uno, Dos, Tres y Cuatro cuartos dormitorios disponibles. Estacionamiento disponible. \*\* Aceptamos Section 8\*\*. Rates Starting at: Studio- \$615; 1BR- \$700; 2BR- \$800; 3BR- \$900; 4BR-\$1000. Para mas informacion por favor llamar al 860-549-3000.

**TKB BINGO SUNDAY**

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# El Informativo Latino

## Hartford estará realizando clínicas de vacunación Covi-19 sin cita previa a partir del jueves

La ciudad de Hartford anunció planes para comenzar a albergar clínicas de vacunas de COVID-19 donde no se requerirán citas. La primera clínica de este tipo se llevará a cabo el jueves en Walmart en Flatbush Avenue de 2 a 6:30 p.m. La clínica está abierta solo para

los residentes de Hartford. "Estamos llevando la vacuna a nuestra comunidad de todas las formas posibles, y ahora que todos son elegibles, creemos que es importante poder ofrecer clínicas sin necesidad de cita previa", dijo el alcalde Luke Bronin en un comunicado. "Tenemos un largo



camino por recorrer para vacunar a toda nuestra comunidad, y vamos a seguir haciendo todo lo posible para que sea lo más fácil posible para nuestros residentes". La ciudad dijo que está trabajando para finalizar las fechas de las futuras clínicas. Se solicita a los residentes que traigan algún tipo de identificación para verificar su residencia en la ciudad. No se requiere seguro médico. *By Iris Rodriguez*

## Aumenta de preocupación por variante del Covic durante lanzamiento de vacuna en CT

A medida que continúa el lanzamiento de la vacuna COVID-19 en Connecticut, existe una creciente preocupación por la propagación de variantes del virus en el estado. Durante un periodo de tiempo, estábamos progresando, pero cuando se trata de COVID-19, Connecticut es uno de los estados que ha estado mejorando en los casos recientemente. El aumento en los casos hizo que el Departamento de Salud Pública emitiera una advertencia durante el fin de semana recordando a las personas que permanezcan atentas, ya que varias comunidades en todo el estado han entrado en estado de Alerta Roja. Los funcionarios de salud también están instando a las personas a vacunarse. Para brindar opciones, se reabrirán las clínicas. A partir de esta noche, East

Hartford tendrá una segunda clínica para proveedores de cuidado infantil. Tendrá lugar en el Community Cultural Center a partir de las 6 p.m. a las 8 p.m. UConn Health también está abriendo una clínica en el campus de UConn Storrs hoy y se trata de recibir inyecciones en el brazo lo más rápido posible. "Para que tengamos una sensación de normalidad acerca de esto, cuantas más personas hayamos inmunizado contra COVID-19, más rápido podremos ver ese nivel de protección en nuestra comunidad para protegernos unos a otros y volver a un nivel bajo de COVID-19", dijo el Director de Salud y Servicios Sociales de East Hartford, Laurence Burnsed. *By Iris Rodriguez*



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Dr. Reginald J. Eadie,  
President and CEO  
Trinity Health Of New England



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